

**EVOR PHILLIPS
LEASING
NEW JERSEY**
EPA ID# NJD980654222



EPA REGION 2
CONGRESSIONAL DIST. 06
Middlesex County
Old Bridge Township

Other Names:
Phillips Leasing
N. America Metals
EPL Industries

Site Description

The Evor Phillips Leasing (EPL) site covers six acres in Old Bridge Township. The surrounding area is largely industrial. In the early 1970s, the site was used for various waste treatment, hauling and disposal businesses. The site also contained nineteen horizontal furnaces which were used for the incineration of photographic film and printed circuit boards. Two former surface impoundments, used for the neutralization of caustic and acidic waste waters, were located in the northeast area of the site. The area was unlined, enabling contaminants to migrate through the soil, groundwater, and surface water. A State investigation conducted in 1982 estimated that approximately 150 drums containing chemicals to be buried at the site. The Sayreville municipal wellfield is located approximately 1000 feet southwest, and the City of Perth Amboy wellfield is located approximately 3000 feet southwest, of the site. All nearby residents have discontinued use of private wells and are now served by a municipal water supply. The area surrounding the site is used for hunting and fishing; however, there has been no evidence that game or fish have become contaminated.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through State and potentially responsible party (PRP) actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 12/01/82

Final Date: 09/01/83



Threats and Contaminants

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including dichloroethane and trichloroethylene (TCE), and heavy metals such as copper, nickel, and zinc have contaminated the groundwater. The soil is contaminated with VOCs and phthalates, a plastics by-product. Direct contact with the soil, or accidental ingestion of contaminated soil or contaminated groundwater, could pose a health threat. Municipal well data confirms the presence of site-related contaminants in the groundwater. All well water samples exceeded EPA and State of New Jersey water quality criteria for heavy metals. On-site contaminants leaching into the underlying aquifer may be causing contamination of nearby wellfields.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in three stages: initial actions, an interim remedy, and a long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Initial Actions: In 1983, the State conducted a Removal Action and excavated drums and removed them from the site. At the time, 30 drums were estimated to remain buried on site.



Entire Site: Contamination at the Site is being addressed in two phases. In 1992, EPA signed a Record of Decision (ROD) selecting an interim remedy to clean up the first phase of the site. The interim remedy includes removal and disposal of buried drums, and an interim groundwater remedy which includes extraction, on-site organic and inorganic contaminant treatment, and on-site reinjection of groundwater underlying the Site. In April 2002, the settling parties entered into an Administrative Consent Order (ACO) with the NJDEP. An Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) was issued in May 2002 to extract the most highly contaminated on-site groundwater, treat it on-site to remove organic contaminants, then discharge it off-site to Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW). A second ROD will be developed to address remediation of contamination in soil at the Site as well as a final groundwater treatment remedy to address all on- and off-site contaminated groundwater.

Site Facts: Under an ACO, entered into by the State and several PRPs in 1994, the PRPs contributed funds for a remedial investigation of source contamination at the Site, agreed to demolish the office buildings and furnaces, and remove the buried drums and underground storage tanks identified during remedial investigations. In February 1996, a group of PRPs signed a second ACO with NJDEP to perform the soil studies called for in the ROD. In July 1997, the PRP group submitted an RI/FS Workplan to conduct activities which will be used to develop the second ROD. This RI/FS includes the continuation of contaminated soil and groundwater investigations and development and evaluation of remedial alternatives for soil and a final groundwater remedy. The PRPs completed these soil and groundwater investigations in 1999. The supplemental groundwater RI report submitted by the PRPs was approved by NJDEP in October 2000. The PRPs are currently preparing an FS Report to develop and evaluate remedial alternatives to address on-site soil contamination.



Cleanup Progress



(Actual Construction Underway)_____

Earlier and ongoing removals of contaminated drums have reduced risks at the Evor Phillips site. Site cleanup is now in a long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site. In addition, EPA has determined that the site does not pose an immediate threat to the surrounding community or the environment while interim remedial work and further site studies are taking place.

In 1983, the State of New Jersey excavated 30 to 40 drums and removed them from the site. Excavations initiated in January 1996 by some of the PRPs unearthed over 1,000 buried waste containers in six areas of the Site through May 1997. From February to April 1997, EPA conducted a removal action which included erecting a containment structure over a 10,000 square foot area of the Site and excavating 34 drums and approximately 300 laboratory-sized containers. PRP excavation activities, on hold during EPA work, were completed in May 1997, however a final electromagnetic anomaly indicative of buried drums was discovered and this is presently being investigated. All wastes generated by EPA and PRP activities to date have been characterized and disposed of off-site at permitted facilities. A groundwater treatment plant has been constructed at the Site and extraction and treatment of contaminated groundwater with discharge to the POTW was initiated in late 1999. The extraction and treatment system has been in continuous operation since 2001. Plans are being developed for a final groundwater remedy which will address both on-site and off-site groundwater contamination through a ROD scheduled for September 2004.